The Long Island FISHERMAN

35¢

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

JANUARY 6th, 1977, ISSUE No. 1

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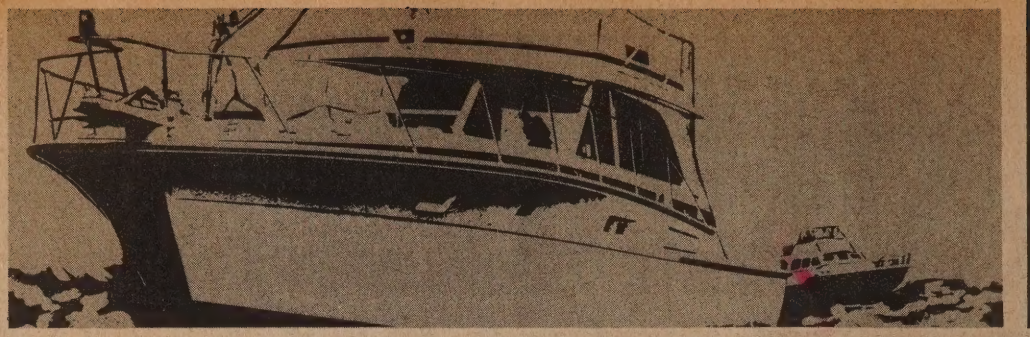
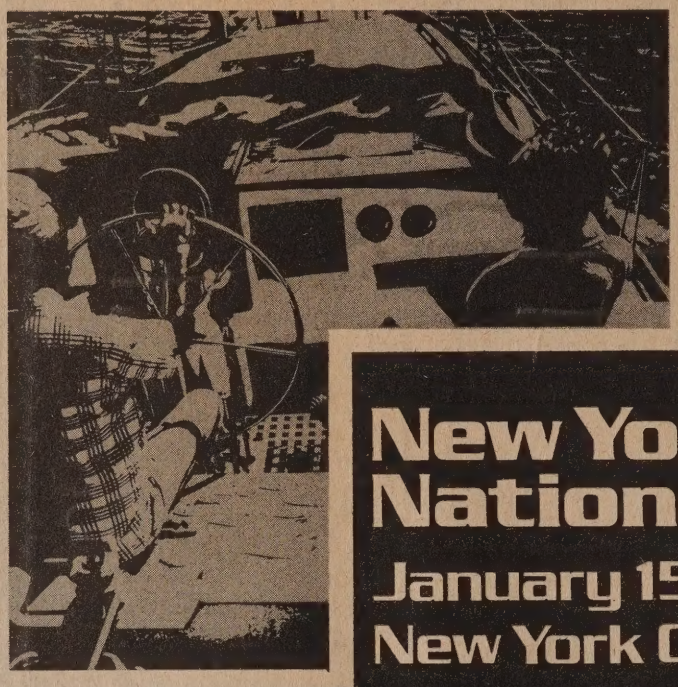
★ TRAVEL ISSUE ★





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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOL. 12, No. 1 JANUARY 6th, 1977

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When offshore waters are rough in North Carolina, channel bass are often active in the surf. Here's Milt and June Rosko with several beauties. Read Milt's article "Outer Banks Offshore" beginning on page 12.

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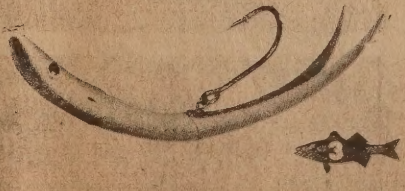


ICE FISHING NEARBY

BY FRED GUARDINEER

ALL ICE FISHING IS DONE IN FRESHWATER AND A LICENSE IS REQUIRED.
IT CAN BE A FAMILY AFFAIR WITH MOM AND THE KIDS ICE SKATING OR HELPING DAD!

L.I. FISHERMEN'S NEAREST SPOTS ARE IN WESTCHESTER, PUTNAM AND DUTCHESS COUNTIES USUALLY SADDLED WITH A N.Y. CITY RESEVOIR PERMIT.

CONNECTICUT LAKES SUCH AS CANDLEWOOD, LILLINONAH, QUASSAPAUG AND LAKE ZOAR ARE RECOMMENDED AND PRODUCTIVE.

NEW JERSEY LISTS GREENWOOD, MUSTCANETCONG AND HOPATCONG LAKES AS PRODUCERS OF PICKEREL, PERCH AND TROUT.

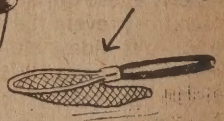
MINNOWS, MEALWORMS AND GRUBS ARE THE USUAL BAITS AVAILABLE AT FRESHWATER TACKLE STORES.

GRUB

A 6-INCH HOLE IS BIG ENOUGH FOR MOST ICE FISHING.

SUN GLASSES PROTECT YOU FROM THE CONSTANT GLARE OF BRIGHT SUN ON THE BARE EXPANSES OF ICE & SNOW.

A LARGE BAIT PAIL CAN ALSO BE USED FOR A BUCKET SEAT. HAVE SMALL NET HANDY TO GRAB BAIT MINNOWS.



ICE CHISEL TO CUT FISHING HOLES.

FISH WHERE OTHERS ARE CATCHING FISH-YOU'LL KNOW THE ICE IS SAFE TO HOLD YOU - AND THERE IS SOME ACTION.

TIP-UPS WILL LET YOU FISH SEVERAL HOLES AND HELP HOLD ATTENTION OF SCHOOL FISH SUCH AS PERCH, CRAPPIES AND WALLEYES.

CROSS-SECTION OF LIGHT PORTABLE HUT MOUNTED ON SLED WHICH AFFORDS REAL COMFORT AND FOLDS FLAT FOR CAR TOP TRANSPORTATION TO FAVORITE LAKES.

COMBO SPACE HEATER & STOVE

ICE FISHING IS OFTEN A TEST OF ENDURANCE - COMPARED TO HITTING ONE'S SELF ON THE HEAD WITH A HAMMER - IT FEELS SO GOOD WHEN YOU QUIT - AND GO HOME!

Pass It On...

NOTICE TO BOAT DEALERS RE: NY BOAT SHOW

Don at **Bossler & Sweezy** will be running a chartered bus and possibly two buses covering the north and south forks of Long Island and points west, taking people from the trade into the first dealer day of the NY Boat Show on January 13th, 1977. If you are interested, call Don at 286-0458.

L.I.B.B.A. OPERATION CHRISTMAS TREE

Long Island Beach Buggy Association along with Great South Beach Mobile Sportsfishermen and many individuals not related to any organization, will be placing unsold Christmas trees in the sand dunes at Smith's Point Park, Shirely. These Christmas trees are being placed to prevent the erosion caused by wind, rain, tides, etc. Both LIBBA and GSBMS are conservation groups interested in preserving the natural resources of Long Island.

Operation Christmas Tree will be held January 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, and 23. All interested public should call Joyce Thayer after 5 P.M. at 516-751-2423, or Tom Kehlenbeck, President at 289-7545.

MECLI MEETING NOTICE

An open public meeting of the Marine Environmental Council of Long Island (MECLI) will be held on Thursday, January 6th, 1977 at 8 P.M. At the Bowery Savings Bank, 5100 Sunrise Highway, Massapequa, NY (2nd floor meeting room, use rear entrance.)

Contests & Tournaments

1977 BAY SHORE MAKO TOURNAMENT

The Bay Shore Tuna Club invites all fishing clubs and anglers to participate in the Mako Tournament to be held at Bay Shore on June 25th and June 26th. Entries to be limited to 150 boats, first come, first served. Due to tremendous demand for entries and trying to be fair with all, applications are being accepted as of now. Only one team per club will be allowed.

As in last year's tournament, predesignated club teams will be competing for club prizes and all anglers may compete for individual prizes. Mooring facilities at the Bay Shore Marine will be made available without cost to tournament participants. Due to limited dock space, berths will be assigned on a first come, first served basis.

This year's entry fee will be $90 per boat. There will be no angler fees, but each boat must list all anglers on application. Each boat entered will receive bait and chum in the amount of 100 pounds per day to be supplied.

Maximum bait and chum on boat each day is not to exceed 200 pounds and if any entrant desires to order any additional bait or chum than as provided and included in the entry fee, it will be available on dock. Prices for additional bait and chum will be at prevailing rates payable on delivery.

A meeting of anglers will be held on Friday night, June 24th at Capt. Bill's Anchorage, Ocean Avenue, Bay Shore, New York at 8:00 P.M. sharp. At this time the boat numbers, tournament badges and literature will be distributed. General conduct and questions concerning the tournament and rules will be answered and explained at this time.

For official tournament rules and information concering the tournament, write to Ernie Scheffel, Tournament Chairman at 87 Ocean Avenue, Bay Shore, 11706.

CLUB NEWS

ATTENTION CLUBS

Sam Ballin, corresponding secretary of the Fishing Bugs of Brooklyn is compiling a list of fishing clubs in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut areas. He knows of no such list, and feels that such a list would fill a missing need. Clubs should send in, or phone in, the hame of the club, officers, type of fishing done, and how club could be contacted. All clubs sending in this information will receive a copy of the compiled list when printed. Sam Ballin, 507 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10017. (212) 682-2446.

OUTBOARD SKIPPERS CLUB NOTICE

The Outboard Skippers Club of the South Shore Power Squadron will hold its monthly meeting at American Savings Bank, Modell's Shopping Center, Hempstead Turnpike and Newbridge Avenue, East Meadow on Monday, January 10th, at 8 P.M. A member of the Nassau County Marine Police will discuss their work and Marine Safety. All outboarders and outboard-inboarders are invited to attend.

BOATING

SOUTH SHORE POWER SQUADRON

South Shore Power Squadron is offering to the public a free 10 lesson boating course, available to all men, women and children, at the following locations:

The course is from 8 to 10 P.M.. East Meadow High School on Carman Avenue on January 26th, 1977; Oceanside Senior High School on Brower Avenue on February 2nd; and Hicksville High School on Division Avenue on February 26th.

The course will cover handling under normal conditions; handling under adverse conditions; seamanship and common emergencies; rules of the road; aids to navigation; compass and chart familiarization; running lights and equipment; boating trailering; inland boating and mariner's compass and piloting.

For additional information please call 826-3262.

BOATING COURSE

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary 13-8 is offering boating courses at Seaford and Bethpage High Schools. These are 12 lesson boating safety and seamanship courses and in Bethpage only there will be a 12 lesson sail course. Also offered is a 4 lesson young boatman course for boaters of ages 10 to 16.

Seaford registration is Jan. 10, 11, 12 and 13th. Bethpage registration is Jan. 17th and 19th. For for information please call Stuart Rosenberg at 781-3254.

COURSE ON BOATING SKILLS

Flotilla 12-08, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, will begin its improved twelve lesson course on Boating Skills and Semanship on Tuesday, January 4th, 1977 at 8:00 P.M. at the Martin Van Buren High School in Queens Village. The course will be given by qualified instructors and will feature all aspects of boat handling. For early registration or additional information, call or write Warren Black, 32-23 103rd St., Corona, New York 11469, telephone 212-478-0512 after 6 P.M.; or Mr. Borden, 27-14 Ericsson St., E. Elmhurst, NY 11369, tel. 212-899-7138.

Surf Side with Doc Muller

Heading South During Winter

"Get up, let's go, those bass are smashing Rebels up at the power plant!" Was this John's question or command?

I replied: "Who cares?" Do you ever have trouble getting your butt out of the sack to fish during the winter? Somehow flounder, cod, pollack or power plant bass and blues lose some of their appeal when the air is so cold that the fingers lose all sense of feeling, including pain. The first sign of being overcome by the cold is when you reach inside a pocket for a cigarette and can't find the pocket. Right?

Every winter I hear tales of cod taken from the beach at Democrat Point. Good for them!

They say that "Ford has a better idea." Well, so does Muller. If you are going to fish this winter, get out of New York and head south. It doesn't have to be a long and expensive jaunt either. The Florida Keys are appealing and the Gulf of Mexico is likely to have some great surf action for red drum and bluefish, but we don't need to fish in eighty degree temperatures to be happy: The 60's and 70's will do, thank you.

I must admit that you guys with campers have it made. Clean it up, put in some provisions, gas the beast and go! Without a buggy the trip may become a little more expensive, but it's still possible within the limitations of a well-structured budget.

Where? Good question. It depends, he answers. "Oh no, is this gonna be another one of those articles?" Dear Reader: No, it's not gonna be another one of those articles!!!

Look, it depends upon your perspective and your personal circumstances. As early as November, some of the surf clan began the migration south along with the Robins and the striped bass. They bounce from New Jersey to Maryland to Virginia to North Carolina. They ship their fish and that's how they make a living.

They hope for a big month in January on the Outer Banks and begin the trip back in February or March ending up in Cape Cod during July and August.

To many of you, that probably sounds like a dream of a life, but it has its drawbacks and a lot of hungry days and lonely nights. Don't be too envious. Anyway, those guys probably don't read The Long Island Fisherman.

What, then, shall you and I do this

Buggies line up near the Cape Hatteras light to intercept migrating schools of blues.

One happy angler connects with a slammer blue on a chunk of mullet even though the action was slow.

winter if the ol' fishin' bug gets to us. The tough time for me is from the end of January and through the end of February. After that I get into a little flounder and I develop some patience for the bass, weaks and blues.

I've been lucky enough to get away to fish on two separate winter fishing vacation trips. The first was to Walker's Cay and the second was to The Outer Banks of North Carolina. I tried my best to find a way to get to Costa Rica this year, but alas, I received no invitations and I'll be shoveling snow with the rest of you. Maybe next year. Check that: Wait till next year, that's the phrase. Well, if I do I'll tell you all about it. Hey, I'm not rubbing it in! My trips are usually modest, and I have to politely listen when subscribers tell me about their battles with giant marlin in the Caribbean and Hawaii.

Your best bet for a winter fishing interlude remains the Outer Banks. The cost is not prohibitive and the action is usually good, but maybe I can give you a few tips that may make your vacation more enjoyable.

The cost of the trip will vary depending upon many factors. The round trip mileage is roughly twelve hundred miles depending upon which route you take. If the family is with you, you may want to get off the interstate highway to see some of the local sights. A day in Washington D.C. is always educational, fun, and stimulating. If you are alone or with a few buddies, you'll want to get to the fishing grounds as fast as possible.

Let's assume that you go straight and smooth. If your vehicle gets about fifteen miles per gallon that means that you'll need about 80 gallons for the round trip. At a cost of approximately 60 cents per gallon, the gas will cost you about $48. Keep in mind that at home you know all the cheapest places to get your gas. On the road you'll probably have to pay top dollar. You'll be gasing up near main roads and you are a captive audience. Add about five bucks on that gas charge charge for this factor.

Food is a lot easier to judge. First of all, you know what your family or your buddies like to eat. Second, buy it on Long island before you leave. I've always been told that the cost of living out of New York is cheaper then in New York. Although it may be true for items like housing and entertainment, I've always found that food is more expensive out of state. Buy your food at home. If you don't have a buggy and will be staying in a motel once you get across the Mason Dixon line, your cost will be significantly higher. Motel rates are about the same down south as they are on Long Island.

Taking the family may not be the wisest thing to do. Unless your tribe is into fishing, bird watching and beach walking you better leave them home. Life is a little more rugged on the beach and there is nothing else to do. The water is too cold for swimming and night spots are virtually unheard of. There are mostly men at Cape Hatteras, and sensitive women and children may find the language and atmosphere a little heavy for their taste.

Although everybody would prefer bass and blues, these anglers happily fish for fluke while keeping an eagle eye peeled for signs of feeding gamefish at Capt Point.

In spite of all the publicity about giant bluefish, they do not hit the beach everyday. In fact, you may spend a week there and not see a single surface flurry. The great striped bass runs of prior winters have not really developed the past few years. Therefore, the angler should be prepared for a varied attack.

Baitcasting usually picks up the slack when wildly feeding blues and bass are absent. The take may vary from fluke to channel bass to a stray blue to croakers to sharks, but the mainstay bait is mullet which is readily available on the Outer Banks for a rather reasonable price. Lures and bottom rigs are also available, but you'll be able to save quite a bit of money if you prepare these yourself before you leave. Standard rigs will suffice even though locals sometimes employ terminal tackle that differs a little bit from what you are used to. Still, the differences are merely the result of habit and should not be of any concern.

In addition to baitfishing rigs and lures used to pursue lively gamefish, bring along fluke hooks, pyramid sinkers, wire leaders, orange corks, three-way swivels, fish finder rigs, and 7/0 weighted snagging hooks. To be extra safe I'd bring along some bucktails (of various sizes) and extra spools of line.

Peak season for big channel bass is October and then April, but "rats" can be taken almost throughout the year. Bluefish have proven that they are unpredictable, but the best time of year seems to be November-December and then again in March. Flurries are very possible throughout the winter.

"Trout," (weakfish) as the locals call them, are consistently available although techniques and locations may change through the year. You may catch either our northern weakfish or the spotted weakfish since their range overlaps in the Virginia to North Carolina area. Residents enjoy wading the shallow tidal marshes in the "back" casting small jigs with light sticks. It is excellent sport.

Fluke abound in these waters and they pile up obligingly right against the beach. You have a choice of strategies. You may cast snagging rigs into the surf and retrieve slowly. When you bump a fluke you hit 'em hard and collect your meal. It is an interesting experience to snag a doormat in the tail because the crazy fish actually take drag! However, it's a lot more fun to fish for them with bait in exactly the same manner that you'd seek them on Long Island in the summer. Save those dogfish that you catch, because strips of shark belly are one of the best baits you can use.

Well, that's a brief run down. Toss in twenty or thirty bucks for odds and ends like tolls, meals on the road, and minor repairs and you're got a good picture of the Outer Banks potential in the winter, Enjoy!

Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

On Becoming a Fisherman

One early fall evening last year while snelling hooks in anticipation of the coming codfishing season, a neighbor dropped in to while away an hour or two. He had never seen hook snelling done before and it wasn't long before he became deeply interested.

When I had snelled a sufficient amount of the usual twelve-inch lengths, I began to measure and cut some leader material a bit longer. When completed, these would give me a supply of cod hooks on eighteen inch snells. While I was doing this, he asked me why I just didn't make all my leaders the same length and save time. Good question.

I explained the importance of different leader lengths to compensate for changing tidal conditions. As I knew it would, the explanation was completely over his head, and he readily admitted it. But he was impressed enough to comment that it seemed to him that I undoubtedly took my fishing seriously.

My neighbor was long departed when I finally completed the snelling job, but his comment on my serious attitude toward fishing stayed with me. He was right, of course. I do take my fishing seriously. And well might every potential fisherman.

I am fortunate to have been able to fish for over fifty years, and as you can well imagine, I've met hundreds of fishermen during that time. I've come to the conclusion that there are fishermen, and there are fishermen.

By that, I mean that there are many fishermen who take their fishing as seriously as I, and there are others indulging in the pleasant pastime of enticing fish to the baited hook, but whose prime desire is to spend an enjoyable day on the water—if they catch fish, okay; if not, that's okay too. I'm all for these fellows, of course, but sad to say, because of this approach, they will never be outstanding fishermen. They lack the burning desire to excel at their chosen sport, and without it, I believe they are reduced to mediocrity.

Certainly, there are natural born fishermen, fishermen who seemingly can do no wrong when indulging in their favorite sport. I've met them on occasion, but you may believe that these fellows are few and far between. Most excellent fishermen have become expert because of a genuine desire to excel. They have worked hard at their sport, they have burned the midnight oil, so to speak.

Good fishermen catch fish while others must often stand and watch.

None of the demanding aspects of their sport are too great for these fishermen. In fact, I have yet to meet one who did not welcome the opportunity to pit his hard-gained knowledge against his finny quarry under the most adverse conditions. Even when they know in their own heart that results are sure to be poor, these fishermen are out there trying. It is no wonder why they are master fishermen.

With that in mind, let me offer a few ideas on how I believe good fishermen are made. They may not coincide with your thoughts on the subject, but those listed are from my own experience and close fellow-fishermen.

If the beginning fisherman is sincerely interested in fishing and desires to excel, he is half way home. It is as simple as that.

The smart fisherman realizes that in the beginning he must devote as many leisure hours as possible to the pursuit of his sport. He knows too, that he cannot share the alloted time between fishing and, let's say, another participant sport such as bowling and hope to attain master fisherman status.

Not that the fellows who do are unable to catch fish if they so desire. But I don't believe these gentlemen will ever become outstanding fishermen because of the demanding study necessary to achieve expert. In other words, they cannot serve two masters.

I also believe that in order to excel, a fisherman must be willing to spend some time in experimentation. Even when he knows that doing so at the moment will cost him precious time and many fish while thus engaged in his experiments; especially is this true when he's certain conventional methods are sure to produce were he to use them. This is always a hard decision to make under these circumstances, but the beginning fisherman should always consider that the conventional methods that produce so well for him are the results of another fisherman's experiment.

While experimenting, he may never discover anything new or spectacular, but to the dedicated fisherman, this means nothing. He knows it must be done in order to achieve a solid fishing foundation and eventual expert status. If he is unwilling to do this, I believe he lacks the necessary spark to excel. He must either live and breathe fishing or fall by the wayside. There is no other way.

Advanced fishermen know experiments need not be time consuming or anything out of the ordinary. I know one fisherman who modified a home-made chum pot by replacing the piece of half-inch hardware cloth he originally used in its construction with one of quarter-inch. His catch of flounder immediately increased. When questioned, this expert fisherman claimed the smaller opening keeps the heavier, larger pieces of chum inside the pot, allowing only the lighter fragments to drift along in the current, where he believes it is quickly brought to the attention of distant flounders as it skims along the bottom.

While the experiment was no earth-shaking event, the fact remains that this fisherman has done his homework. He has tried to improve his fishing by, as he said, "thinking like a fish." You may be sure, of such stuff are expert fishermen made.

Study is important to the successful fisherman. He must be willing to do a good share of it. Fortunate is the fisherman who enjoys the printed word, for success is certain to arrive sooner. The magazine you are holding in your hands covers every aspect of the sport—from the pursuit of the lowly flounder to the chase of the regal marlin. You may be sure the dedicated fisherman passes up no opportunity to better

his sport.

Public libraries are chock full of interesting and factual information on sport fishing. The master fisherman knows he can do no better than to spend an evening or two browsing through the well-stocked shelves of his neighborhood library.

He knows that here at his beck and call is a gold mine of information, some of it sure to cover the fish of his choice, and all written by expert fishermen who have devoted a lifetime to the sport. The knowledge-hungry fisherman has no qualms about appropriating what quite possibly took some poor fisherman a lifetime of experience to produce. This is but one method fishermen use to increase their catch.

Many fishermen I know admit, however, that they haven't been inside a library since Adam was a boy, and sad to say, many have no intention of doing so. But they are good fishermen nevertheless. When I questioned these fishermen as to where they learned the methods that seem always to produce fish, most gave me the same answer: by asking questions of other fishermen considered to be experts in the field. Which is as it should be, for good fishermen are inquisitive by nature.

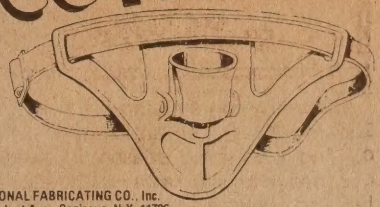
Getting needed information from expert fishermen is quite easy. Fishing, particularly bottom fishing, is one sport where the known expert is willing to share his knowledge with other anglers desiring specific information. I suppose it satisfies the experienced fisherman's ego to be helpful and point out the errors of beginning anglers. Nothing wrong with that, of course.

Be that as it may, the budding fisherman should be aware of this and take full advantage of it. He should approach these known experts as a babe-in-the-woods, cheerfully admitting that he knows little about the fishing game. Acknowledging that in his possession is an over-powering, nagging desire to learn is always helpful. In fact, those are magic words. They rarely fail to produce the desired results. Actually, I have never known them to fail.

Anyway, the above are some of my ideas on how expert bottom fishermen are made. There are many more, of course, such as the aforementioned desire to excel; a fanatical interest in fish; plus an all encompassing interest in terminal tackle, particularly hooks. Bait, and how to use it is certainly important. But none of these are as important as a deep and abiding love for the fishing game. With that, any fisherman will succeed—the rest is a snap.

Believe me, I know.

The Long Island FISHERMAN FISHING TRIP CONTEST



The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.

NATIONAL FABRICATING CO., Inc.
130 Lambert Ave., Copiague, N.Y. 11726

★ Bonus Prize ★

Contest winners also will receive a NAFABCO GIMBAL ROD BELT, the new lightweight unbreakable plastic gimbal for boat & surf!!!

LAST WEEK'S WINNER:

There was once again no winner this week so next week's winner shall receive $50 plus a free fishing trip for two aboard a boat of his/her choice.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:

577-QCN

Weekly winners of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

MONTAUK	CAPTREE	SHEEPSHEAD BAY	NORTH SHORE
Viking Star	Speedy VI	Amberjack IV	Port Jeff Ace
Peconic Queen III	Capt. Ben Litwin	Chief	Betty W
Marlin III	Capt. Joseph Fleet	FREEPORT Aloma II	

Fishing The Florida Keys

by Mark Sosin

The toughest concept for the visitor to accept is that fishing in South Florida is seasonal. An army of anglers head for the Florida Keys each winter nursing visions of tarpon, bonefish, permit, and other denizens of the shallow flats. They reason that if they can swap boots and snowshoes for canvas footwear, the fishing has to be fantastic and they can experience everything they have always read about.

Fishing in Florida Keys can be fabulous, but there is a preferred time for each species. Unfortunately, the middle of the winter seldom ranks high on the piscatorial calendar. That doesn't mean that you can't catch fish during January, February and March, but it is not the prime time for a grocery list of fish. Weather is one problem. South Florida experiences a series of cold fronts that move from west to east. The prevailing winds that bring good weather are easterly down there or southeasterly. West winds are cold and they chill the flats, sending every inhabitant in search of a deep hole in which to hide. As an example, it takes 75-degree water for tarpon to venture on the flats and bonefish prefer temperatures over 70-degrees and preferably 72. It may sound ridiculous, but a difference of a single degree is enough to keep them off the flats.

It is the weather that makes winter fishing such a gamble. If you are there when the weather warms for two or three days, tarpon will pour over the flats and bonefish will take up their regular feeding stations. The problem is that no one can forecast the weather systems far enough in advance to help you plan a trip, so you must take your chances.

Many of the skiff guides from Islamorada and Marathon will work the back channels for a mixed bag of mackerel, ladyfish, jacks, trout, bluefish, and whatever else they can find. Often, they fish the extensive mullet muds, casting bucktails or soft plastic lures blindly into the midst of the turmoil.

On the warmer days, they will locate some bonefish and maybe even a small tarpon or two, but one cannot count on it. The one critter that does invade the flats during cold snaps is the barracuda. That is the time when the big 'cuda stack up on certain flats in staggering numbers. They can be taken with a lure made from surgical tubing and cast a long distance from the boat. The retrieve should be fast and the lure should skip across the surface.

Cobia are tough competitors and offer a top angling challenge. They can be found over wrecks and around buoys and markers.

While the tourists descend on Miami and work their way through the Upper and Middle Keys, the leading light tackle specialists who live in South Florida hitch up their rigs and run the 160 miles to Key West. Unquestionably, Key West is the best winter fishing port in the entire United States. The reef fishing breaks wide open in the winter and it is the first place that big tarpon show. In fact, during the winter months, mammoth tarpon take up residence right in the harbor.

Key West is at the confluence of the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. On the Atlantic side, the reefline stands as a barrier and runs westward to the Tortugas, tapering off and disappearing at a spot known as the Tail End. During the winter, herds of baitfish congregate over the reefs starting at the Eastern and Western Dry Rocks and moving past Cosgrove, the Quicksands, and Halfmoon Shoals. The bait moves from place to place, but if you can locate the bait, the predators you seek are right there.

At times, the action is fantastic. A dozen different species from amberjack to grouper and kingfish to barracuda are whipping the sea to a froth in their frenzy to feed. Then, there are times when all is quiet, and it is a slow pick. Most of the regulars use deep jigs over the reef, working them vertically from the bottom to the top. In the process they catch dozens of different species that include black fin tuna, African pompano, and even an occasional sailfish.

Unless the weather is extremely cold, you can find large tarpon in the harbor from January through June. The easiest way to fish them is to troll big swimming plugs at night. An Atom swimmer is a favorite down there and local experts rig it with a bucktail dressed hook. Big Mirrolures work and so do countless other swimming offerings. If you doubt

the size of the tarpon, keep in mind that Gus Bell landed a 243 pounder right in Key West Harbor on February 17th, 1975. That is only 10 pounds under the all time rod and reel record.

During the day, you can often see the tarpon rolling right in front of downtown Key West and moving up and down the channels. Some say they are hard to catch, but the boys who do the damage don't talk much about it. One method is to work a 66M18 Mirrolure in front of the fish. The technique is to drift around and watch for rolling fish. When you see one, cast way ahead in the direction it is going, let the plug or bucktail sink, and then retrieve it slowly. The method really works if you believe in it and keep trying.

There are also cobia in the harbor during the winter and you can find them around the various buoys and markers. Big jack crevalle are also present at this time of year and mackerel seem to be in all the deep channels. If the weather is warm enough, permit are along the edges of some of the back country flats.

In early spring, the cold fronts become less frequent and the waters of the Keys warm steadily. Bonefishing improves and the tarpon spread up and down on the Gulf side or the back country as it is called. There are times during the colder months when a warm spell will bring tarpon into the Marathon area and a few back in the Everglades and behind Islamorada.

Islamorada has excellent bonefishing when the weather warms in spring and, of course, tarpon seem to be everywhere. Marathon and the Lower Keys are also hip deep in migratory tarpon and the run lasts into June and then tapers off. Some big fish are found through July and possibly August.

Kingfish are the mainstay of the offshore boats in the Keys through April and reef species are also taken. There is always the stray sailfish and an infrequent marlin. Again, it should be emphasized that you can always catch some species of fish in Florida, but it may not be the glamour fish that you expect.

It is easy enough for a visiting angler to learn to deep jig over a reef and anybody with experience can cast a lure into feeding fish on the surface. Certainly there are preferred spots and subtle techniques that a newcomer isn't going to master the first time out, but with a systematic approach and a combination of casting, trolling, and bottom fishing, one should catch something.

Flat fishing is different. There is no way that someone from the North is going to score consistently the first time out or the second. Finding your own way and the right places to fish can lead to frustration and failure. The best advice anyone can give you is to hire an experienced guide at least for the first couple of times. A particular flat can come to life on only one small stage of the tide. If you are there at any other time, you might as well sunbathe. On some flats, the fish could be 50 or 100 yards farther up or lower and you'll never see them. Speaking of seeing, you have to be able to spot fish on a flat and that takes practice. A good pair of polarized sunglasses is only the beginning. It's a science and one that takes time to learn.

Fish are very sensitive in shallow water to any noises. The sound of an outboard will clear an acre of water in a minute of any fish worth catching. You have to pole a boat silently and keep sounds that can be transmitted through the hull to a minimum. Frequently, it is necessary to shut down at least a quarter mile from where you want to fish and pole in.

In the Key West area, some of the best fishing is over the countless wrecks that pockmark the bottom on both the Gulf side and the Atlantic. The locations of these are as closely guarded as a king's ransom and, although you might get the coordinates of a few that are known to everybody, the better ones will continue to be a mystery. Not every guide knows all the wrecks and each is very careful about fishing the ones he does know because he doesn't want to be followed.

Finding the right guide isn't always easy. If you have a specialty such as fly fishing, you may want to look for someone who is knowledgeable about that phase of the sport. All of the guides will profess a knowledge of flyrodding, but there are only a few who truly understand many of the finepoints.

It takes a certain meshing of personalities between guide and angler and there are personal factors involved. Some people hit it off with certain guides and others don't. Two of my favorites in the lower Keys are based in Marathon. They are Capt. Nat Ragland and Capt. Steve Huff. Both are extremely knowledgeable, competent with any type of tackle, totally honest, and nice people to be on the water with.

In Key West, Capt. John Eckard knows the harbor as well as anybody and better than most. Capt. Lefty Reagan has forgotten more about the wrecks and reefs than most men will learn in a lifetime. Capt. Gris Bettle specializes in the back country. Capt. Bob Marvin is an excellent skiff guide and so is Capt. Gil Drake.

If you trail your own boat, there is a beautiful launching ramp that is free at Garrison Bight in Key West. There are other free ramps along the Overseas Highway and plenty of other ramps that are sometimes free and sometimes there is a small charge.

Back in the early days, fishing from the bridges was fun and rewarding. With the amount of traffic on the highway and the number of fatalities each year, it's smart to stay off the bridges including the catwalks. If you do decide to park along the highway, be sure to lock your car. There have been an extensive number of thefts from parked cars. By the way, there are a number of bonefish flats adjacent to the highway and it is easy to walk right out on them and fish. Some of the best are on the ocean side of Grassy Key.

If you remember that there are ups and downs in Florida fishing, you won't be disappointed. When everything goes right, memories are made, but it doesn't happen every time. Still, fishing the fabulous Florida Keys is fun anytime you are there and you can bet that something is going to happen to make you want to go back again and again.

Bonefish like warm water and invade the flats when water temperatures are above 70 degrees. Bonefishing improves when the water is 75 degrees or warmer. During cold snaps, these fish leave the shallows for the deeper holes.

Outer Banks Off Shore

by Milt Rosko

Extending from Nags Head, North Carolina, on south to Cape Lookout, a very thin sliver of sand separates Albemarle Sound and Pamlico Sound from the broad expanse of the Atlantic Ocean. A glance at a map quickly shows that this relatively narrow spit of sand, known as the Outer Banks, extends many miles seaward. There are numerous inlets that enable boatmen to sail from protected waters, including Oregon Hatteras, Ocracoke, Swash and Drum Inlets, out into the ocean, and the fantastic blue water fishing that is available just a short distance from shore.

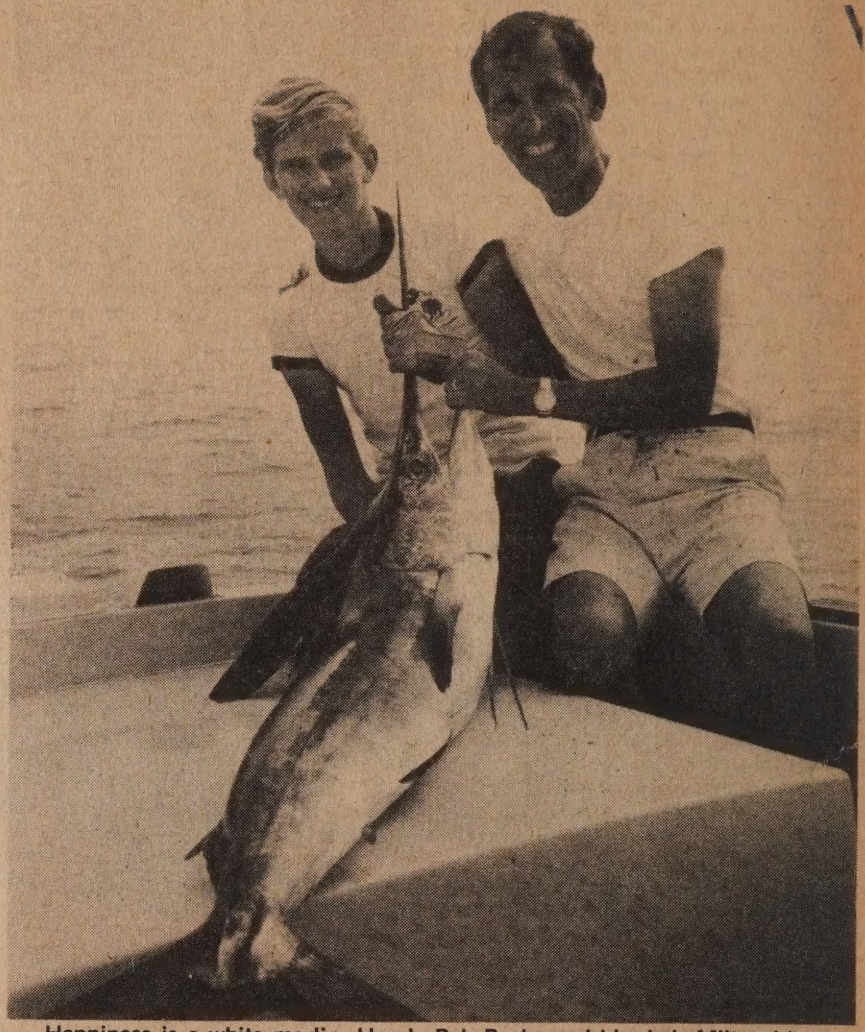
The major inlets for the sportfishing fraternity are Oregon and Hatteras. Oregon Inlet boats have a run of 35 to 40 miles seaward to reach prime fishing grounds, while the Hatteras fleet need sail only 12 to 15 miles before they reach fine fishing.

The short run to the fishing grounds makes both of these spots a favorite with sportfishermen. The only drawback is that both inlets have treacherous offshore sand bars, and when strong winds and tides clash the inlets get really dangerous. Under such conditions it's wise for the boatman not familiar with these waters to stay at the dock or fish the waters of the adjacent sounds. Even when the weather is reasonable it's wise for the newcomer to the area to seek the counsel of veteran boatmen, and to sail, fish and return with the fleet.

In this regard, on my visits to both Oregon and Hatteras Inlets, I've found the chartermen to be extremely accommodating. I've spent hours sitting at the dock talking with them, and have gained a wealth of information both about the waters and fishing from what are truly the finest southern gentlemen which has been my pleasure to be with.

Before discussing the fishing and tackle I've used while fishing offshore of the Outer Banks, let's spend a moment and talk about the boats. For the tourist angler there are excellent fleets of good charter boats at Oden's Dock and Teach's Lair Marina in Hatteras and at the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center. At Hatteras they're open all year, while the facilities at Oregon Inlet are open from March 15th through November 15th.

Private boatmen will find great accomodations for their boats at both ports, with slips available to accomodate the biggest sportsfishermen to the smaller trailer rigs. This past summer I had my 24 foot Wellcraft in a slip at Oregon Inlet, while the adjoining slip was occupied by a 53 foot Hatteras offshore sportsfisherman. There was only one disadvantage at Oregon Inlet, and that was the lack of showers for visiting boatmen. Rates were reasonable, just $.25 per day per foot of boat.



Happiness is a white marlin. Here's Bob Rosko and his dad, Milt, with a typical Tarheel white marlin. It was hooked by Bob while trolling approximately 40 miles offshore of Oregon Inlet, N.C. Fish of this size are a great challenge on 30 pound class tackle, and provide many exciting jumps before they are brought to boatside. Most whites are released, but Bob had this one's bill mounted by the taxidermist.

Okay, so now you know that you can charter, cruise to, or trailer to these two great fishing ports. What shoud you take in the way of equipment, and what can you expect to catch?

The basic 30 pound class outfit was designed with these two fishing ports in mind. However, during the height of the blue marlin run you're taking a chance with this light gear, for many of the blues range from 300 to 1,000 pounds and more, and on 30 pound line it's often a matter of seeing a blur as line disappears from your reel as a 10 to 14 foot monster cleans you out. While the big blues clean out many an angler, it's remarkable the number of these big billfish that have been landed on highly maneuverable and fast small boats on the 30 pound outfits.

Because you'll be tangling with really tough gamefish, the cream of the pelagics that roam the offshore waters of the world, you'll need top quality tackle in seeking out these adversaries. Buy the best quality, because anything else will let you down on the offshore grounds, and may result in your losing a fish of a lifetime.

I've used a wide variety of 30 pound class outfits, and in recent years I've moved away from reels with star drags, and have settled on the throw lever, pre-set drag feature as being the most workable and reliable on the market. I've used the Fin-Nor, Everol, Penn International and Regal and all do a fine job, having smooth drag systems that don't heat up excessively during a prolonged battle which may last upwards of a couple of hours.

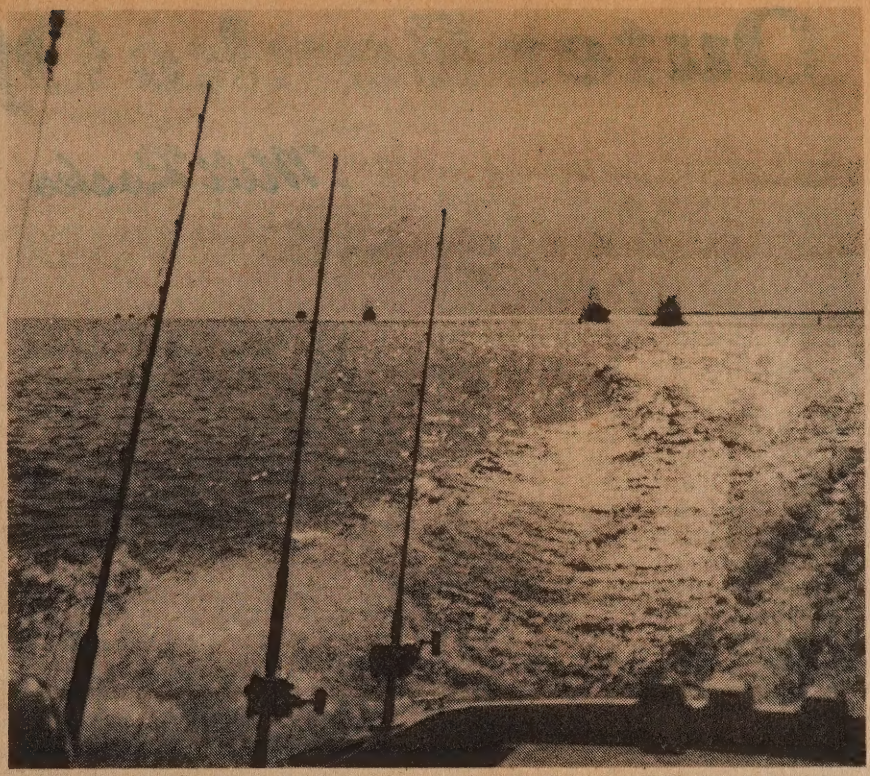
The reels I use are loaded with either Golden Stren or Orange Stren monofilament in 30 pound test. I like the color because it is highly visible. When you're trolling a half dozen lines astern the colored line immediately draws your eye to the bait, an advantage I find much to my liking. During the past couple of years I've noticed that increasing numbers of offshore fishermen are switching to the colored fluorescent lines because of this visibility feature.

While some offshore anglers like Dacron, I find the monofilament works extremely well, and that slight bit of stretch it has over Dacron can prove an advantage, especially when I've newcomers aboard who make a mistake now and then.,

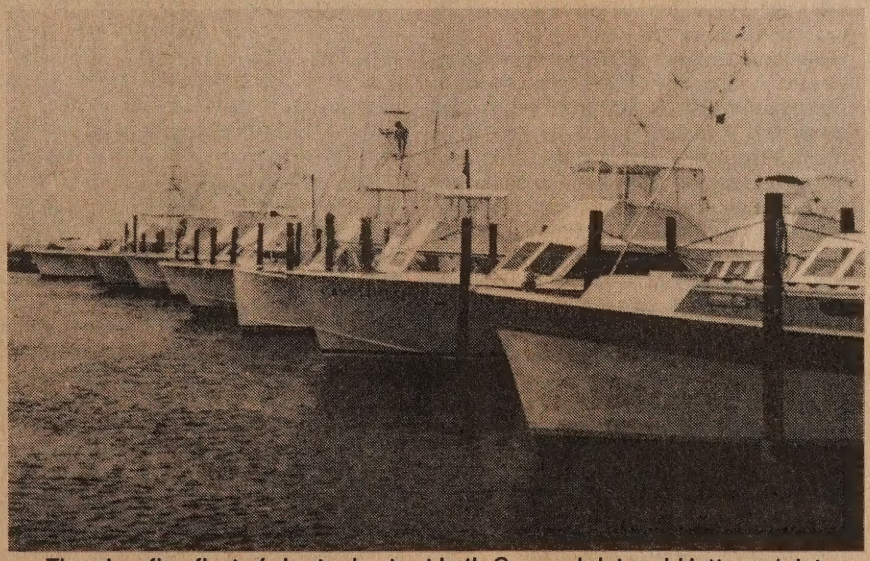
There are many big game rods on the market today. Some aren't worth the name big game rod, so be careful in your selection. There's no such thing as a cheap or economical rod, for you'll find that quality big game rods carry a substantial price tag. Look for a rod with roller tip-top and roller guides, a heavy duty screw locking reel seat, and a hickory, aluminum or stainless steel butt. The rod should have an oversized grip, which makes for comfort while fighting fish for a long period of time. Look for top of the line rods made by Fenwick. Garcia and Sea Isle or Fin Nor, or custom rods such as those produced by Kondak Outfitters, Mako and other such custom rod builders.

Equipped with this kind of tackle you're all set to sail from North Carolina ports for the wide variety that awaits you. The majority of chartermen will be happy to permit you to use tackle of this quality. But don't take second rate equipment along, because nothing is more frustrating than fishing all day and suddenly having an opportunity at a big wahoo or marlin, and then having tackle failure.

The species you'll encounter off Hatteras and Oregon Inlets are almost



Heading home. Here the fleet returns through Oregon Inlet after a day of fishing for white and blue marlin, and a host of other gamefish in the fish-filled waters off the Outer Banks. Oregon Inlet boats have a 35 to 40 mile run to the fishing grounds, while Hatteras Inlet boats hit fish a scant 12 to 15 miles off the beach.



There's a fine fleet of charter boats at both Oregon Inlet and Hatteras Inlet. Pictured here is the fleet at Oregon Inlet Fishing Center.

beyond belief. Over many years, I've fished off of most major fishing ports on the Atlantic Coast, and I must say that these two would have to rate as the finest when it comes to species, close proximity to the fishing grounds, and the overall size of the fish encountered.

The billfish naturally steal all of the headlines. The blue marlin reigns supreme. Most often it is fished for with 50, 80 or even 130 pound class tackle. The charter boats supply this heavy gear, and if you bring your own boat and really want to get serious about hanging a blue it's best that you make the investment in several big rigs. In the hands of an experienced angler, and when fishing from a highly maneuverable boat, lots of marlin weighing in at 500 pounds plus have been landed on 50 pound tackle, although you'd be a lot

more comfortable with 80. It should be remembered that most of the blues caught off Hatteras and Oregon Inlets average out at around 350, which makes them fair game even for a 30 pound rig, especially if everybody reacts with lightning speed at the time of hook-up, for it is that initial run that is a line peeler. It's at that time if you maneuver quickly that you may have a chance with the light gear.

The top season for blue marlin is May through July, although you're apt to run into the bruisers any time from April through November on the offshore grounds.

The real prince of the offshore trolling fraternity is the white marlin. This past summer I fished out of Oregon Inlet aboard our "Linda-June" the custom-crafted Wellcraft Airslot 24 footer that I trailer along the coast. We experienced fantastic sport some 35 to 40 miles offshore, and on one occasion we hooked three white marlin simultaneously! The fishing was so good that on numerous occasions a total of 50 or more white marlin were either released or boated during a single day, and there were a smattering of days when the catch total topped the 100 mark. This was during the August-September peak of the run, although July also saw good fishing. Usually somewhere in the range of 20 to 25 boats were fishing the offshore grounds at one time, and throughout the day there was someone fighting a billfish practically all of the time.

Another billfish that is a regular visitor to these waters is the Atlantic sailfish. August is the peak month for sails, but you can expect strikes from them from late June through October. The majority of the sails are caught incidental to trolling for marlin. I suspect that when the sails are plentiful more of them could be caught were anglers to troll smaller baits. As with the whites, the sails are just fantastic sport on 30 pound class tackle.

As we move away from billfish, we find a variety of species on the offshore grounds that is almost beyond comprehension. Because most everyone is concentrating on billfish the other gamefish don't receive many headlines, although they rightly should.

Just imagine the opportunity to catch wahoo ranging from 20 to upwards of 80 pounds just by accident when they wallop baits intended for whites! This happens most every day throughout the summer, providing anglers fishing with light tackle superb sport. An extremely fast, powerful gamefish that makes long runs beneath the surface, it's also an extremely fine table fish.

There are several species of tuna found on the offshore grounds, and it's a toss-up whether a bluefin or yellowfin will pop a bait. On the average most of the tuna are more respectable in size off this area than is the case off Jersey and Long Island. While we experienced practically no tuna in our waters, and those that were caught were for the most part under 40 pounds, there were times off Oregon and Hatteras inlets that the tuna in the 50 to 100 pound range were a problem! Both yellowfins and bluefins in these husky weights are tough adversaries on light tackle, and everytime you hook one on 30 pound tackle you might just resign yourself to the fact that you'll be spending the next one-and-a-half to two hours in subduing the adversary.

While billfish buffs don't like being plagued by strikes from other species, I'm delighted when other species move into the baits, because they often provide exciting sport equal to that of the billfish, for each species fights with a determination all its own, and the style differs markedly from species to species.

The dolphin is a classic example of a great light tackle fish. On our maiden offshore trip of the "Linda-June" it was a dolphin that made the mistake of walloping a skip bait and becoming the first blue water gamefish to get blood on the deck. A sterling acrobat that you usually see vaulting across the wave tops before it hits your bait, it is a beautiful fish, that can really pull hard, especially if you're fortunate enough to hook one in the 25 to 45 pound class. There are times off these inlets when the dolphin are so plentiful, that it becomes impossible to fish for anything else, simply because the prettily-hued acrobats get to the skip bait before anything else gets a chance. At such times anglers can fish themselves to exhaustion.

King mackerel are also apt to wallop a skip bait most any time of the year, but during the summer months they're few and far between. The real king mackerel blitz occurs during October and November, and at the height of the action it's not unusual for boats to land several hundred of the extremely fast gamefish. Catching them while trolling balao, mullet and strip baits on the surface provides exciting surface strikes, but if you're interested in really scoring then wire line is the answer, using essentially the same techniques you'd employ in local waters for stripers and blues, with spoons and bucktail jigs the favorite lures. There's usually a good spring run of kings, but these are usually fish under 20 pounds, whereas in the fall run most of the fish range from 15 on upwards to 40 pound "smokers."

During a typical summer day you'll see every species I've mentioned here on the docks. Some boats will come in with a string of marlin release flags flying, while others will hit an area loaded with dolphin, and load up with them. Usually there is a mixture, thus affording the angler lots of exciting action.

Unfortunately, the weather can turn bad and stay that way for extended periods of time at both Hatteras and Oregon Inlets. But the angler who just likes to fish will find ample time to explore a wide variety of inshore fishing. For the broad expanses of Currituck, Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds hold a huge variety of inshore species.

There are cobia, channel bass, blue fish, tarpon, striped bass, and both weakfish, the northern grey weakfish and the popular southern or spotted weakfish. All of these species are found in the waters of both inlets at various seasons of the year, and for the small boat angler there's a bonanza to be enjoyed if you can't get offshore.

If bottom bouncing is your cup of tea, there are summer flounders galore, plus black drum, croaker, spot, sheepshead, sea bass and white perch, to mention a few. On several windy days we stayed within the confines of the inshore protected waters and just drifted along and fished baits on the bottom and caught a variety of species, all of which were fine table fare.

There are many fine restaurants along the Outer Banks, and many of them specialize in local seafood, preparing it in a variety of ways which defy description. Crabs, clams, oysters, shrimp and any kind of fish you might name are fried, steamed, broiled and baked using local recipes that make you completely forget about the steady diet of beef, lam and chicken you may be accustomed to at home.

Fine accommodations await the visiting angler, but during the summer months everything is crowded, and naturally the costs are a bit high. We found most costs to be below what you might be accustomed to be paying in the Jersey and Long Island areas, however. Visiting boatmen and those who trailer their rigs often live aboard, thus keeping overhead to a minimum. Because so many anglers do this, there evolves a fine camaraderie among the visiting fishermen, which makes it far more enjoyable than spending a night in a room. The dockside chatter enhances your knowledge of the area and the fishing. Still another advantage is that shortly after daybreak, when you hear the first engines start up and break the early morning quiet, you can quickly get out of the bunk, start up, and fall in line with the fleet as it heads for blue water.

The Outer Banks are unlike most of our coastal areas, in that they still reflect the beauty and solitude of being unspoiled. The waters are clean and fish are abundant. Thus you have a combination difficult to beat. Add the southern hospitality of Tarheel natives and you'll find that your first visit will be just the beginning of many exciting adventures and return trips to Oregon and Hatteras Inlets, a pair of spots that offer some of the most exciting fishing along the Atlantic coast.

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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Captain Dick Vigilant of the charter-boat **Triton II** reported a very good day of codfishing at Block Island on Sunday. Eight anglers took 55 cod and about a dozen small pollack, providing plenty of action for all aboard. Many of the cod were on the small side, but about ten of the fish were in the 20 lb. class and one was in the thirties.

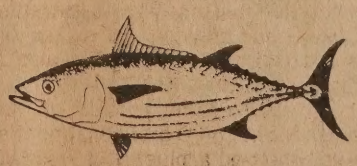
Captain Jimmy Behan of the **Peconic Queen III** also reported very good codfishing in the Block Island area whenever the weather permits. The Queen is still sailing seven days a week at 5 A.M. daily to Block Island Wrecks and Ledges for cod and pollack.

The **Viking Star** is only sailing on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays at 5 A.M. during the months of January and February.

CAPTREE

Captain George Tweedy of the **Captain Scotty** said that the day after New Year's, Sunday, saw some pretty decent codfishing southwest of Fire Island Inlet in 108 feet of water. Twenty anglers boated 21 cod, most of which were in the 15 to 20 lb. range and one real bruiser that was in the mid 50's. The boat was blown out most of the week, returning to the dock by noon on the days it did sail due to the ridiculous weather. Plenty of whiting still around, but no mackerel in the last couple of weeks. George said that the boat now has a new snack bar for those fishermen what want to grab a bite to eat or warm up their innards with a cup of coffee.

The boats of the **Captain Joseph Fleet** have ceased their codfishing activities until the fishing and weather conditions improve enough to insure a good day of fishing.



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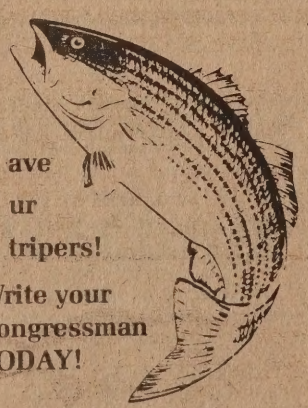
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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie on the **Starstream II** reports continued very good whiting fishing along with some ling mixed in. Richie is fishing east of Ambrose and fish are running generally from 1 to 3 pounds. Most of the fish are biggies. Also a very occasional cod. Prime territory is just one hour from the dock and the better the weather and drifting conditions, the better the catches.

The **Captain Al** had 40 cod on Sunday for 14 anglers with Frank Solecki taking 4 cod plus the 34 lb. pool fish. Pete Winhus of Howard Beach had 6 cod up to 30 pounds. Al has asked us to mention that he has moved his boat to the very head of Woodcleft Canal, just north of the Helim Restaurant and is on the other side of Woodcleft Canal from where the old Viking Fleet used to sail. Al says there is lots of parking right at the boat and you won't be able to miss his sign when you come down South Grove Street.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Captain Nick on the **Blue Sea III** says he is having excellent whiting fishing with some ling mixed in and is fishing from the channels to the area northwest of the tower. Nick says this will have to go down as one of the best whiting seasons ever.

The **Dorothy B** sailed Monday and Sunday and reports are continuing very good with the whiting catches around Ambrose with everyone loading up with at least a five gallon bucket. Kevin says fishing is dynamite when you have the conditions to drift.

Captain Butch on the **New Zephyr** informs us that whiting fishing is still very good between the entrance buoy and Ambrose Tower and also northwest of the tower, where he did a job on Sunday. Butch says that lots of fish are still there and the weather and tide conditions just have to give you a break and allow some decent drifting to load up.

Captain Don on the **Big Mohawk II** tells us that on Sunday 11 fares had four cod with the pool fish going 25 pounds even. Dan says conditions were poor with the wind and tide making holding bottom extremely difficult. Even so, the **Big Mohawk II** appears to be the only cod boat sailing out of Sheepshead Bay right now.

Captain Huck on the **Helen H** tells us

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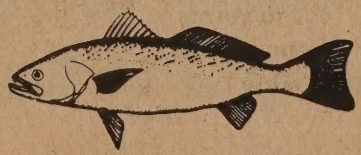

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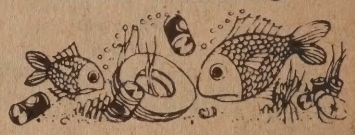

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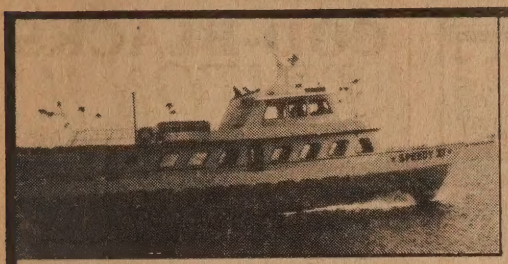
that the whiting is still very good and that he is fishing Ambrose, Scotland and Whistler. Some mackerel have been mixed in with the whiting. Volume of whiting is very good. The boat has just had a heated rail installed to make your winter time fishing more comfortable. Your reporter has first hand experience (no pun intended) with heated fishing rails and they are truly heaven sent.

The **New Eagle** informs us that he is still having very good whiting catches around Ambrose and the BA Buoy along with some ling. The nights continue to be as productive as the day trips.

CAPTREE



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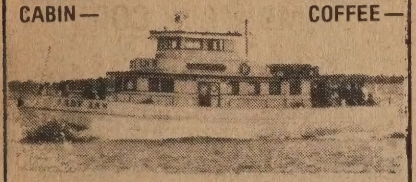

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

SELDEN

Ken Freeman at the **Angler's Den** said fellows going over to Northport are picking away at the bass. Fish up to 25 pounds were reported and confirmed according to Ken. Small "broken-back" Rebels, one-half to three-quarter ounce bucktails and white Tri-Fin Whiptails are taking fish. Ken said there seems to be some nice fish in the hot water this year. That is of course providing you don't mind the walk to get to the plant. Fishing is "real good" for this time of year according to Ken. Usually fishing does not get this good at the plant until February or March. Since most of the fellows work in the daytime, night fishing (B-r-r) is receiving a lot of play. Overcast days are producing a few fish. Outgoing is the tide to be at the plant.

NORTHPORT

Tom at **Bowman's Sporting Goods** said the first part of last week was a disaster because of the snow storms. During the end of the week the die hards were back in the store buying clams or Whiptails for their journey to the power plant. Tom said he thought it was a sure thing that a fellow putting in a couple of hours wait in the cold would come up with a small striper for his efforts.

Tom noted he hasn't heard anything about tommy cods which are normally around at this time of the year. Some fellows were eeling at the head of the harbor. As of this writing the harbor is frozen over, so Tom advises you'll have to chop some holes in if you want some eels.

Alone in their boat on Thanksgiving morning, Chet Sinig managed 28 flounders from 1 ½ to 2¾ pounds. These fish were caught west of Ashroken using sandworms for bait. Subscriber Club Photo.

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To place an ad in The Long Island Fisherman, our new policy is to mail into us the ad exactly as you wish it to read accompanied by a check in the amount of $4.50 (a minimum or for 30 words) and $.15 per additional word. Extended run discounts: 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; 50 times, 15%; Ask about our photo classified. Effective April 29th, 1976. Mail to L.I.F., P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729.

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Pict[illegible]ed are 4 of 16 cod in the 15-25 lb. category taken by Bill Witchey Jr and Dave Amitrano of Massapequa Tackle and Sports. These fish were taken while fishing aboard the "Joan L" out of Freeport. The four anglers aboard also took a bushel bag of whiting. Photo courtesy of Massapequa Tackle and Sport.

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HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR	8:05	8:32	8:57	9:15	8:45	9:14	9:31	10:05	11:20	11:49	11:39	—	8:08	8:31	1/6
FRI	8:41	9:14	9:35	9:56	9:20	9:54	10:13	10:47	11:57	—	12:06	12:20	8:49	9:12	1/7
SAT	9:23	9:58	10:15	10:38	9:59	10:36	10:54	11:31	12:26	12:40	12:46	1:02	9:32	9:55	1/8
SUN	10:07	10:45	10:57	11:24	10:42	11:22	11:39	—	1:08	1:26	1:29	1:45	10:14	10:41	1/9
MON	10:53	11:35	11:42	—	11:28	—	12:18	12:31	1:53	2:12	2:14	2:34	11:03	11:33	1/10
TUE	11:46	—	12:15	12:33	12:13	12:21	1:09	1:25	2:44	3:05	3:05	3:28	11:55	—	1/11
WED	12:31	12:44	1:10	1:29	1:04	1:18	2:06	2:27	3:37	4:03	3:58	4:26	12:31	12:55	1/12
THUR	1:29	1:45	2:13	2:32	2:01	2:20	3:07	3:34	4:35	5:07	4:58	5:29	1:31	1:58	1/13

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide , add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	— 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	— 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	— 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	— 0 12
Seaside Park	— 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	— 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	— 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	— 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	— 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	— 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	— 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	— 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	— 0 38
Democrat Point	— 0 38
Coast Guard Station	— 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	— 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	— 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	— 0 08
Herod Point	— 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	— 0 20
Truman Beach	— 0 42
Falkner Island	— 0 13
Sachem Head	— 0 10
Branford Harbor	— 0 07
New Haven Harbor	— 0 08
Milford Harbor	— 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	— 0 03
Saugatuck River	— 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	— 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	— 0 14
Montauk Inlet	— 0 25
Montauk Point	— 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	— 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	— 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	— 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	— 0 [illegible]
Execution Light	— 0 06
Manhasset Bay	— 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	— 0 11
City Island	— 0 03
Rye Beach	— 0 28
Port Chester	— 0 09
Mamaroneck	— 0 08
New Rochelle	— 0 24
Davids Island	— 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	— 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	— 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	— 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	— 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	— 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	— 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	— 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

12/6	7:13	4:29
12/11	7:18	4:28
12/16	7:22	4:29
12/21	7:25	4:31
12/26	7:27	4:34

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
12/21	12/28	12/6	12/14

The Original Knight

SOLUNAR TABLES

When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
THURS.	4:40	**11:25**	5:15	**11:40**
FRI.	5:35	—	5:55	**12:20**
SAT.	6:35	**12:50**	7:00	**1:15**
SUN.	7:30	**1:40**	7:50	**2:05**
MON.	8:20	**2:35**	8:45	**3:00**
TUES.	9:15	**3:30**	9:40	**3:55**
WED.	10:10	**4:25**	10:35	**4:50**
THURS.	11:05	**5:10**	11:20	**5:40**

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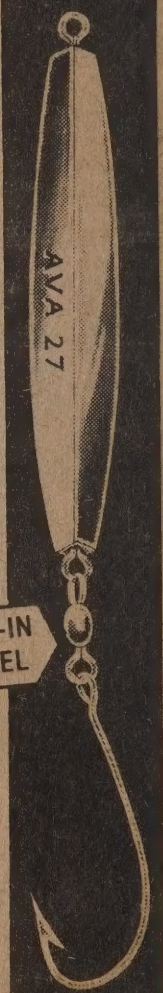

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